

From: [Bowman, Liz](#)
To: [Gray, David](#); [Coleman, Sam](#); [Wagner, Kenneth](#); [Jackson, Ryan](#)
Subject: FW: Status of Superfund Sites in Areas Affected by Harvey
Date: Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:02:18 AM

We are getting requests from reporters (this is the second or third I have gotten) to tag along with, or send a photographer with EPA to the superfund sites. Normally, I would say this isn't a good idea, but I think that we should let them go with us, to show we are on the scene, pending that David or another media person is there to accompany them. Thoughts?

From: Richard.Valdmanis@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:Richard.Valdmanis@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Status of Superfund Sites in Areas Affected by Harvey

Liz, is the boat inspection of San Jacinto Waste Pits still scheduled for tomorrow? We would like to deploy a photographer, and would be grateful for your help with timing.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 2, 2017, at 5:27 PM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Richard. We are also gathering information on drinking water and waste water systems now. For a preliminary report of drinking water systems in the affected area, statistics are reporting that 1757 systems are fully operational, 98 are partially operational and on a 'boil water' notice, 49 systems have outages, and we aren't able to get in contact with 189.

From: Richard.Valdmanis@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:Richard.Valdmanis@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2017 5:21 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Status of Superfund Sites in Areas Affected by Harvey

Thanks Liz – I appreciate the heads up, and will be interested in continued updates as they become available.

From: Bowman, Liz [mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 5:07 PM
Subject: Status of Superfund Sites in Areas Affected by Harvey

CONTACT: press@epa.gov

STATUS OF SUPERFUND SITES IN AREAS AFFECTED BY HARVEY

WASHINGTON (September 2, 2017) — Despite misleading and inaccurate reporting, the facts are that EPA and TCEQ are working together, along with other local, state, and federal authorities and emergency responders around the clock to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its effects, especially historic and devastating flooding throughout Southeast Texas. With regard to the status of Superfund sites.

EPA has conducted initial assessments at 41 Superfund sites in the impacted areas using aerial images, as well as direct contact with the parties responsible for on-going cleanup activities. EPA has determined that 28 Superfund sites in the area do not currently show damage or excessive flooding associated with Harvey. EPA determined that 13 sites have been flooded and/or are experiencing possible damage due to the storm. Of these sites, two (Falcon Refinery and the Brine Service) have been inspected and it has been determined that they do not require emergency cleanup; although, additional sampling in the area will continue to be conducted.

Eleven sites, including: Bailey Waste Disposal, French LTD, Geneva Industries/Fuhrmann

Energy, Gulfco Marine, Highland Acid Pit, Malone Services, U.S. Oil Recovery, Patrick Bayou, Petro-Chemical Systems, Triangle Chemical, and San Jacinto Waste Pits have not been accessible by response personnel. Teams are in place to investigate possible damage to these sites as soon flood waters recede, and personnel are able to safely access the sites.

The San Jacinto Waste Pits site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material; the cap will be inspected as soon as it is safe for teams access the site. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection is planned for Monday, by boat. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow.

EPA, TCEQ and other authorities will continue to provide additional updates as we gather them. We encourage the community to continue to follow the expert safety advice of local officials.

For additional information from TCEQ, please visit:
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>



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Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460 United States